

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 DHA-02

IO-13 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 COME-00 /108 W

-----150030Z 072246 /12

R 130710Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9764

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

USCONGEN CAPE TOWN 614

UNCLAS GABORONE 0841

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

NAIROBI FOR REDSO

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, BC

SUBJECT: FRG MINISTER OF ECONCOOP VISIT TO BOTSWANA

REF: BONN 05078

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: VISIT TO BOTSWANA OF FRG ECONCOOP MINISTER SCHLEI BROUGHT HOPE OF DM 23 MILLION ASSISTANCE FOR 1977 WHICH WOULD INCLUDE SOME AID FOR REFUGEES. A SECOND ECONCOOP DELEGATION WILL ARRIVE APRIL 14 TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF PROJECTS. MINISTER OF MINERAL RESOURCES AND WATER AFFAIRS CHIEPE SCHE- DULED TO VISIT THE FRG IN AUGUST FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING MARCH 26-29 VISIT TO BOTSWANA, FRG MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION, MARIEIM SCHLEI CONFIRMED AT PRESS CON- FERENCES RECEIVED REFTEL THAT THE FRG HOPES TO CONTRIBUTE DM 23 MILLION (OVER PULA 8 MILLION) IN ASSISTANCE TO BOTSWANA FOR 1977. OF THAT AMOUNT, DM 19 MILLION (OVER PULA 6 MILLION) UNCLASSIFIED

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WOULD GO FOR CAPITAL AID LOANS, DM 3.5 MILLION (OVER PULA 1 MILLION) FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS AND DM 500,00 (OVER PULA 180,000) FOR REFUGEE PROBLEMS IN BOTSWANA.

3. SCHLEI SAID FRG WOULD CONTRIBUTE DM 300,00 TO ASSISTANCE OF RHODESIAN REFUGEES IN MOZAMBIQUE.

4. SCHLEI ANNOUNCED TO THE PRESS THAT AN ECONCOOP DELEGATION WOULD ARRIVE BOTSWANA APRIL 14 TO DISCUSS PROJECTS IN DETAIL.

SIMILAR DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT BY MINISTER OF MINERAL RESOURCES AND WATER AFFAIRS DR. CHIEPE DURING HER AUGUST VISIT TO THE FRG. SCHLEI SAID THE FRG WAS CONSIDERING PARTICIPATION IN A STRATEGIC OIL RESERVE PROJECT TO BOTSWANA WOULD NOT BE CUT OFF IN EVENT OF EMERGENCY. TOO, THE FRG WOULD INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITIES OF ASSISTANCE IN AGRICULTURE, COMMUNICATIONS, AND A LEATHER TANNING INDUSTRY.

5. SCHLEI AFFIRMED THE FRG WOULD MAKE NO COMMITMENTS FOR ASSISTANCE TO THE BOTSWANA DEFENSE FORCE BECAUSE "GERMANY ONLY GIVES AID TO PEACEFUL DEVELOPMENT" AND SUCH ASSISTANCE WOULD BE A DIVERSION FROM AID POLICY. ALSO SHE SAID THAT GERMANY DOES NOT GIVE MILITARY SUPPORT TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, THAT THROUGH DISCUSSIONS WITH GOB OFFICIALS SHE BELIEVED PEACEFUL SETTLEMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA STILL POSSIBLE.

6. CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICA, LOCAL PRESS ATTRIBUTED STATEMENTS BY THE MINISTER WHICH THE FRG EMBASSY HERE LATER MODIFIED PRIVATELY BY ISSUING "CORRECTIONS" TO INQUIRING PARTIES. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN FRAU SCHLEI SAID THAT AN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC BOYCOTT OF THE RACIST GOVERNMENTS WAS ONE WAY OF SOLVING SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS, THE EMBASSY ASSERTED THAT SCHLEI HAD ADDED: "BUT THIS IS ACTUALLY NOT FEASIBLE." ALSO, INSTEAD OF THE PRESS ACCOUNT WHICH HAD SCHLEI AS SAYING THAT THOSE AFRICAN COUNTRIES HAVING TRADE LINKS WITH RACIST GOVERNMENTS SHOULD NOT RECEIVE ANY MORE TRADE GUARANTEES FROM THE WORLD, THE FRG EMBASSY QUOTED HER AS SAYING ONLY THAT THE PROBLEM OF SUCH AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS HAD TO BE CONSIDERED WHEN YOU LOOK AT WEST GERMANY'S FOREIGN AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY" NORLAND

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Disposition Event:
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